



**SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, STATE OF COLORADO
ADAMS AND BROOMFIELD COUNTIES**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER)
REGARDING COURT OPERATIONS) 2020-01
UNDER COVID-19 ADVISORY)
)

In light of the public health risk posed by the Novel Corona Virus and COVID-19 and the advisories and orders from the Centers for Disease Control, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and local public health departments, recommending active steps to slow the spread of the disease and precautions to reduce the risk of exposure, effective immediately the Courts of the 17th Judicial District will be operating with reduced staff and a focus on matters of immediate concern for public safety.

Pursuant to the authority granted in Chief Justice Directive 95-01 and Chief Justice Order Regarding COVID-19 and Operation of Colorado State Court dated March 16, 2020, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

1. **Operations:** Adams County Justice Center and Broomfield Combined Courts will be open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 pm., Monday to Friday, excepting legal holidays. Due to the crisis, we can no longer maintain normal functions and will be operating on an emergency basis. Staff will be reduced as coordinated by the Clerks of Court and the Court Executive, with the approval of the Chief Judge. During operating hours court filings will be accepted at the open windows in each location.
2. **Mandatory Continuance and Limitations on Hearings.**
 - a. Except for matters concerning public safety as described in section 2.b. below, ALL other appearances, court trials and/or hearings set from 8:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 17, 2020, through 5:00 p.m. Friday, April 3, 2020, are hereby VACATED and CONTINUED. All parties and counsel shall contact the appropriate court to reschedule. The courts may also initiate rescheduling. The section 2.a. applies to all jury trials except the death penalty trial and those in which a speedy trial deadline expires during the above time period. If the trial in which a speedy trial deadline expires cannot be resolved by a disposition or a waiver of speedy and reset and must go forward, the jurors

will be staggered at least 6 feet apart and the judge will determine the maximum persons allowed in the courtroom. Any person that appears at a courthouse for a hearing that is not public safety matter shall be provided a new hearing date. This mandate includes all telephone conferences, including those scheduled with the Family Court Facilitators.

- b. The courts will continue to conduct hearings on public safety matters. Public safety matters are limited to the following:
 - i. Petitions for temporary civil protection orders and permanent protection order hearings;
 - ii. Petitions for temporary emergency risk protection orders and hearings on emergency risk protection orders;
 - iii. Crim.P. Rule 5 advisement for incarcerated persons and the initial setting of bail;
 - iv. Revocation hearings on complaints to revoke probation involving an incarcerated defendant;
 - v. Proceedings necessary to protect the constitutional rights of criminal defendants including bond-related matters and plea agreements for incarcerated individuals;
 - vi. Detention hearings for juvenile delinquency cases;
 - vii. Shelter hearings in dependency and neglect cases or other juvenile proceedings;
 - viii. Petitions for appointment of an emergency guardian and/or special conservator;
 - ix. Hearings on motions to restrict parenting time and parental abduction prevention;
 - x. Emergency mental health proceedings;
 - xi. Other proceedings deemed necessary by the Chief Judge (in consultation with the presiding judicial officer) to prevent a substantial risk of imminent financial hardship, or imminent risk to the health, safety or welfare of an individual or members of the community.
- c. When hearings are conducted for public safety matters, courts shall discourage in person participation and encourage and accommodate telephone and/or video appearance for all participants.
- d. In implementing this order, the 17th JD makes every effort to facilitate work from remote locations and to minimize or eliminate in-person proceedings and contact as stated in the Order Regarding COVID-19 and Operation of Colorado State Courts dated March 16, 2020.

3. Jury Calls. All jury calls for a return date between March 16, 2020, and April 3, 2020 shall be cancelled. Any jurors receiving a summons for this time period and that contacts the jury commissioners shall have their service postponed. Any juror

that appears on a summons during the above time period shall have their service postponed.

SO ORDERED this 17th day of March, 2020.

By the COURT,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emily E. Anderson".

EMILY E. ANDERSON
Chief Judge
Seventeenth Judicial District